Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form Survey No. B-4796

1. Name						
Historic	132 – 136 North Duncan Street					
and / common	152 155 110.111 Danielli Sweet		-			
	a a					
2. Location				***************************************		
street & number	132 – 136 North Duncan Street					
city, town	Baltimore					
state & zip code	Maryland 21205	county				
3. Classificati	ion			***************************************		
Categorydistrict X building(s)structuresiteobject 4. Owner of I	Ownership public X private both Public Acquisition in process being considered not applicable Property	Status X occupiedunoccupiedwork in progress Accessible X yes: restrictedyes: unrestrictedno	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museumpark X private residencereligiousscientifictransportationother:		
name						
street & number			teleph	one		
city, town	state & zip code					
5. Location of Legal Description						
courthouse registry of de	eeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Rec	cords		liber		
street & number	Clarence Mitchell Cour			folio		
city, town Baltimore		State	Maryland			
	HOW THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF					
6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys						
title						
date		deral sta	te county	local		
depository for survey reco	ords		<u> </u>			
city, town		state & z	zip code			

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7. Description

Condition		Check One	Check One	
excellent _x good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	$\frac{\text{unaltered}}{X} \text{ altered}$	X original sitemoved: date of move:	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of three two-story, two-bay wide houses vernacular Queen-Anne style houses with shed roofs and sheet metal and decorative brick cornices were built in the early 1890s. After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal and stepped-back bricks became the predominant materials used. This decorative brickwork represents a vernacular translation of high-style Queen Anne designs first seen in Baltimore rowhouses c. 1880. One of the houses retains its original brick facade, which would have been painted; the others have been covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide and occupy lots 59' deep. Each house is only two rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in common bond and were originally painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a sheet metal cornice with decorative end brackets, set above a simple stepped brick frieze, with three rows of slightly projecting stretcher bricks set above a lower frieze decorated with brick modillions.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have splayed brick lintels and brick sills. All sash are 1/1. A variety of replacement doors sit beneath the single-light doorway transom. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash. Each house is reached by two concrete steps.

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8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify		
prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899 1900	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	X community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration industry invention	landscape architecturelawliteraturemilitarymusicphilosophypolitics/government	religion science sculpture X social/ humanitarian theatre transportation other: specify
Specific dates	c. 1893		Builder/Architect	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of late-Italianate-style houses is significant in that it represents the level of architectural stylishness achieved by many builders of small street houses in the late nineteenth century. After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices because of its fire hazard builders switched to a Queen Anne-style influenced form, using sheet metal and decorative brickwork.

The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period 1870 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 to \$1,500; small street houses for \$700 - \$900. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

The land on which these houses are built originally belonged to the Patterson family as part of their 18th century estate, which also included the land given by the family to the city for Patterson Park. In the 1870s and 1880s the Patterson heirs began developing this block by leasing parcels to various builders who constructed modestly-scaled and priced housing for the mainly German immigrant families who were settling near the port-related industries of Canton. Most of the houses sold to mainly German-American semi-skilled tradesmen and laborers employed in nearby factories, who received mortgages from a variety of local building and loans, many of them sponsored by the German community.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

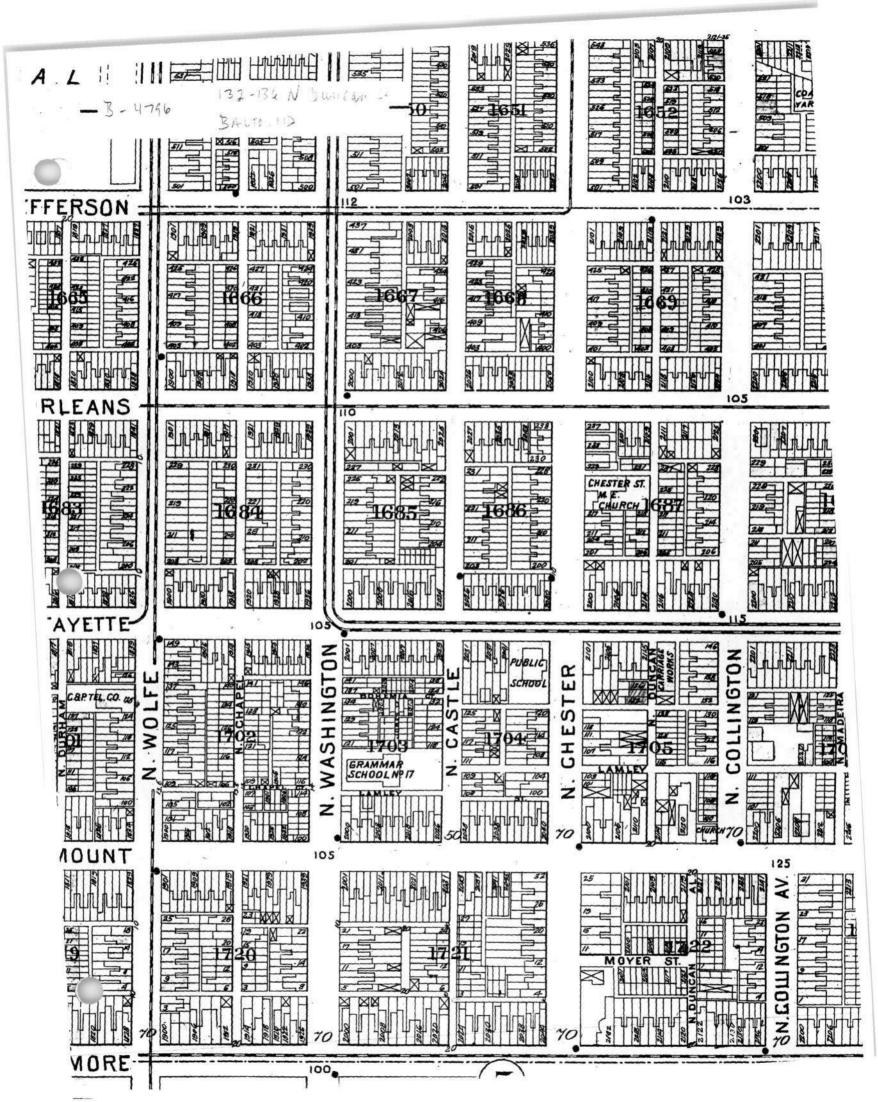
11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr.	Mary Ellen Hayward			
Organization Th	e Alley House Project	date		
street & number	1306 Carrollton Ave.	telephone		
city, town	Baltimore	state & zip code	Maryland	21204

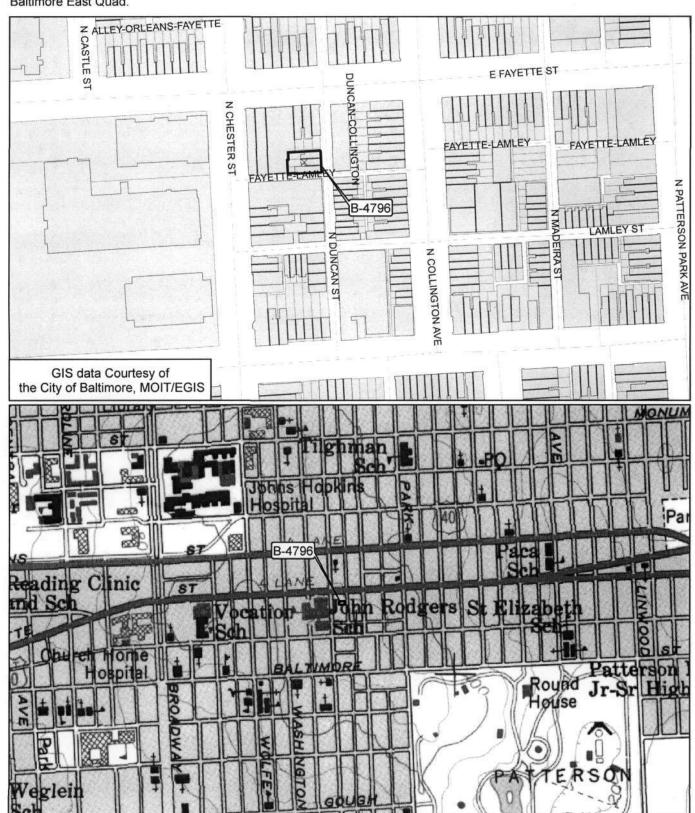
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Commaryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of pro rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023



B-4796 132-136 N. Duncan Street Block 1705, Lots 068-070 Baltimore City Baltimore East Quad.





132-136 N. Dancan St.

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BALTO. MD

C. Belfoure

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